



RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR §1.116
-EXPEDITED PROCEDURE-
EXAMINING GROUP 1600

#17/0
5/19/03

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Anderson *et al.*
Serial No.: 09/717,478
Filed: November 20, 2000
For: **POINT OF CARE DIAGNOSTIC SYSTEMS**
Art Unit: 1641
Examiner: Davis, D.

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Date of Deposit February 19, 2003

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Jonathan Ong

AMENDMENT

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Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 2327
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Sir:

Responsive to the Final Office Action, mailed November 26, 2002, entry of the following amendment and remarks are respectfully requested. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments and arguments presented below either place the application into condition for allowance or reduce the number of issues for appeal. The amendments are provided to correct obvious typographical or grammatical errors, and to obviate a rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claim 1 is amended by incorporating claim 2 therein, rendering claim 1 allowable. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the finality of the Office Action is premature for reasons outlined below. A Petition to remove finality of the Office Action was filed on January 27, 2003.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claim 2 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please replace claims 1, 5, 9, 11, 12, 17, 18, 20, 21, 29 and 30 with amended claims 1, 5, 9, 11, 12, 17, 18, 20, 21, 29 and 30 as follows: